

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of providing access to a network-based document management system from a client, comprising the steps of:

5           defining an access point within a local file system of the client;  
          interfacing to said access point with a local file navigation interface; and  
          accessing the network-based document management system via said  
access point defined within said local file access interface.

10           2. The method of claim 1, wherein a user of said local file access interface in  
the step of providing transfers documents between said local file access interface and the  
network-based document management system utilizing said access point.

15           3. The method of claim 1, wherein said access point in the step of accessing  
is defined as a user-selectable icon that conforms to a user interface of said operating  
system of said client.

20           4. The method of claim 1, wherein said local file access interface in the step  
of providing is integrated into said operating system of said client.

25           5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of validating a user of  
said client-based operating system prior to granting access to said user to the network-  
based document management system.

30           6. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of validating occurs when said  
user logs in to said operating system of said client.

          7. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of validating occurs when said  
user logs in to a network from which the network-based document management system is  
served.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of validating occurs when said user selects said access point of said local file access interface.

5 9. The method of claim 1, wherein said access point in the step of accessing provides a link between said local file access interface and the network-based document management system.

10 10. A method of providing access to a document server application from a client, comprising the steps of:

defining an access point within a local file system of the client;  
interfacing to said access point with a local file navigation interface; and  
accessing the document server application via said access point defined within said local file access interface.